

Working to lessen the burden of high energy costs on families and small businesses, Rep. Debbie Halvorson (IL-11) visited three local businesses, Monday, January 4th, as part of a "Green Jobs Tour" of Will County, highlighting how going green can save money and spur economic growth.

"Everywhere I go in our district, families are looking for ways to save money, and small businesses are looking for ways to reduce their bottom line so they can grow and hire more employees. Going green is one great way to do that, and we're seeing it right here in our own towns," said Halvorson. "We should leave no stone unturned in the pursuit of putting our economy back on track through going green. I have been a vocal advocate for investments in mechanical insulation and green energy, which would create tens of thousands of jobs, and save people money."

Halvorson's first stop was at a local Home Depot store in Frankfort, where she toured the facility and spoke with employees about how products being sold to local small businesses and families are going to save money and create green jobs.

"The Home Depot is dedicated to educating our customers about going green and saving energy through programs such as Eco Options and in-store workshops. By reducing their household energy use, homeowners also will reduce their monthly utility bills, which is money right back in their pockets," said Richard Goodrich, Regional Vice President of The Home Depot. "I'm glad to see that we have a partner in Congresswoman Halvorson that will help our families save money and our businesses grow."

Halvorson then traveled to Atlantic Plant Services in Joliet, where she met with members of the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators Local 17 to discuss legislation recently introduced by Halvorson to provide incentives for small business owners utilize mechanical insulation, which would save money and energy while creating jobs.

"The men and women of Local 17 applaud Congresswoman Halvorson's commitment to our industry. Mechanical insulation a vital component to our many of nation's current goals, and we are a partner in building a new green economy that significantly reduces energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions," said Brian Glynn, Business Manager of the Heat & Frost Insulators/Local 17. "All the while, we're educating and training a skilled workforce that is strengthening our nation's economy. We stand ready to continue our efforts to create a greener and more efficient world."

Halvorson ended the day by touring and eating lunch at a Denny's Restaurant in Joliet. This particular Denny's location was the first in the country to be LEED Certified, which saves the restaurant thousands of dollars a year, allowing more capital to be made available for hiring employees.

"For a small business, going green is easy, and it saves a lot of money," said Joe Terrell, owner of the Denny's Restaurant in Joliet. "I'm proud to see Congresswoman Halvorson taking the lead on the issue, and spreading the word so other small businesses can share in the benefits, help our economy grow, and hire new employees."

To find more information on what Congresswoman Halvorson has been doing to help save families and small businesses money by going green, visit her website by clicking [here](#) .